



TENNESSEE
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SERVICE

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TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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Week Ending May 21, 2000

COTTON GROWERS MAKE EXCELLENT PROGRESS WITH PLANTING

Ideal weather last week allowed **cotton** growers to plant an additional 36 percent of their intended acreage. Planting is currently in line with the five-year average and should be completed this week if weather conditions remain favorable. Thrips are showing up in many areas and producers are spraying as needed. Farmers were also busy last week harvesting **hay**. Harvest is running slightly ahead of normal, and most producers have been pleasantly surprised with both yield and quality. As of Sunday, virtually all of the State's **corn** acreage had been planted. Producers are now turning their attention to treating fields for weeds, insects, and disease. Both **tobacco** transplanting and **soybean** planting are running ahead of normal. Most areas of the State were dry last week, and as a result, six days were considered suitable for field work. Rain did arrive over the weekend, which was a welcome sight for farmers in the eastern and southern parts of the State. Soil conditions in these areas were becoming dry and producers were beginning to delay planting. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 5 percent very short, 21 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 5 percent very short, 26 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 21, 2000					CROP CONDITION: On May 19, 2000					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Planted	95	90	97	95	Corn	1	5	20	56	18
Corn - Emerged	86	77	91	N/A	Wheat	1	7	21	52	19
Soybeans - Planted	20	10	22	16	Pastures	1	7	26	54	12
Soybeans - Emerged	8	2	7	N/A	Alfalfa	0	2	25	59	14
Tobacco - Transplanted	47	24	41	35	Other Hay	0	5	27	56	12
Cotton - Planted	82	46	86	83						
Alfalfa Hay - First Cutting	68	40	67	55						
Other Hay - First Cutting	55	33	41	N/A						
Winter Wheat - Turning Color	48	16	41	33						

CORN: Most of the State's acreage has been seeded with only silage and river bottom land left to be completed. Some growers who were not able to get all their intended acreage planted have indicated they may switch to either soybeans or grain sorghum. Armyworms continue to be a problem in many locations and farmers are treating these fields.

SOYBEANS: Planting of full season varieties continue to progress at a normal pace, with 20 percent planted as of Sunday. Some growers, however, did delay additional planting last week due to dry soil conditions. Eight percent of the planted acreage had emerged by week's end.

TOBACCO: As of Sunday, nearly half of the State's tobacco plants had been transplanted. This is about 5 days ahead of the five-year average. The rains over the past weekend should help the growth of the young plants, but areas of Eastern and Southern Tennessee are still in need of additional rain.

COTTON: Growers are hoping to wrap up planting this coming week. As of Sunday, only 18 percent of the intended acreage was left to be planted. Growers report the crop has responded well to the recent warm conditions.

WHEAT: Crop condition declined slightly this week mainly due to disease pressure in some areas. Despite the decline, the majority of the crop remains in good-to-excellent condition. Nearly half of the crop has turned color.

PASTURES & HAY: As of Sunday, 68 percent of the alfalfa and 55 percent of all other hay had been harvested, slightly ahead of normal. Pastures remain in mostly good-to-fair condition, but some are in need of additional moisture.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 05/21/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 05/21/00				Current Week	Rain	Current	Departure	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	05/21/00	Days	Since April 1	From Normal		
Ames_Plantation	88	49	70	+1	0.28	1	7.23	-2.01	282	-5
Bristol	89	38	66	+3	0.29	1	3.94	-2.01	177	+67
Brownsville_TN	87	51	70	+0	0.19	2	8.40	-0.87	275	+91
Chattanooga	91	52	72	+5	0.15	2	9.11	+1.79	334	+128
Clarksville_Sew	88	50	69	+3	0.48	4	9.63	+2.26	282	+75
Cookeville	87	42	66	+1	0.15	3	9.66	+1.25	179	+100
Covington	88	52	69	+0	0.02	1	4.64	-4.66	285	+25
Crossville_AP	83	43	66	+3	0.32	3	8.16	-0.21	183	+72
Dickson_AG	86	42	68	+0	0.17	2	7.76	-0.81	218	+0
Dover_1W	86	45	65	-2	0.32	2	10.02	+1.91	219	+50
Dyersburg	86	52	69	-2	0.55	2	10.39	+2.35	284	-14
Erwin_1W	91	40	66	+4	0.28	2	4.83	-2.29	165	+11
Huntingdon_Wate	84	44	65	-4	0.24	1	8.91	+0.71	175	-5
Jackson_AG	87	47	69	+1	0.26	2	7.03	-1.89	271	+28
Kingston_AG	88	46	69	+5	0.54	3	8.77	+0.54	233	+105
Knoxville_AP	89	45	70	+4	0.43	2	8.45	+1.93	256	+97
Lewisburg	88	36	64	-2	0.26	2	10.06	+1.43	171	+10
Lexington_TN	88	45	69	+2	0.11	1	9.00	+0.83	249	+164
Linden	87	40	67	+1	0.16	2	9.34	+0.66	197	+11
Martin	87	49	68	+0	0.85	2	8.45	+0.12	241	+28
Mc_Minnville_Tn	86	44	68	+2	0.10	3	7.80	-0.15	242	-25
Memphis_AG	89	50	70	-3	0.06	2	7.62	-1.34	289	-67
Milan	87	42	66	-3	0.16	1	7.34	-1.29	186	-27
Murfreesboro_5N	87	44	67	+1	0.36	2	8.33	+0.12	176	-120
Nashville	88	47	70	+2	0.29	2	7.56	-0.19	265	+33
Newcomb	87	38	65	+4	0.18	2	6.20	-1.87	163	+81
Oneida	86	40	64	+2	0.38	2	7.88	-0.19	140	-73
Pikeville	88	41	68	+2	0.31	3	8.05	+0.38	195	+32
Portland_TN	87	47	66	-1	0.75	3	8.62	+0.74	205	+49
Pulaski_Water_P	88	41	67	-3	0.45	2	10.20	+2.24	200	-48
Savannah_6SW	92	47	71	+3	0.05	1	7.60	-1.86	282	+86
Sparta_TN	87	42	68	+4	0.56	4	8.87	+0.56	230	+95
Springfield	88	44	66	+0	0.73	4	8.33	+0.69	202	+49
Springhill	88	43	68	+3	0.10	1	8.43	-0.50	231	+72
Union_City	86	50	67	-1	0.64	4	7.77	-0.39	207	+3

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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